

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Child and Family Services
11 State House Station
2 Anthony Avenue
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel.: (207) 624-7900; Toll Free: (877) 680-5866
TTY: Dial 711 (Maine Relay); Fax: (207) 287-5282

MEMORANDUM

TO: Child Care Providers
FROM: Office of Child and Family Services
DATE: March 10, 2022
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Child Care Guidance

Since March 2020, OCFS has provided guidance to child care providers on COVID-19. Effective March 15, 2022, the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) will discontinue updating the COVID-19 Child Care Guidance located on the OCFS COVID Response webpage. Child care programs are encouraged to visit current source documents from [US CDC](#), [Maine CDC](#) and the [State of Maine's COVID-19 Response](#) websites for the latest COVID-19 guidance and information.

Maine CDC has updated the Isolation and Quarantine guidance for child care [programs](#) to include an option for "Test to [Stay](#)." Test to Stay is a practice encompassing contact tracing and serial testing to allow close contacts of confirmed cases who are not fully vaccinated to continue attending child care and avoid quarantine. Effective March 16, 2022, Maine child care settings may implement Test to Stay as outlined by the Maine CDC. Visit [Maine CDC](#) for more information.

A recorded webinar will be provided in the near future to review the latest changes and to answer anticipated questions.

The Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) continues to support COVID-19 testing in child care settings. Starting on March 16, 2022, child care providers will have the option to order a supply of at-home rapid tests for children enrolled in their facility. Child care providers can order one at-home test kit, containing 5 individual tests, for every child enrolled in their facility and pick-up anytime between March 28th and April 8th at the [preferred DHHS District Office](#). For child care providers that are unable to visit their local DHHS District Office during regular business hours, they may designate another individual to collect the tests. For more information and to place an order, please use this [online form](#). Child care providers MUST place their order between Wednesday, March 16, 2022 8am and Monday, March 21st 5pm.

Additionally, the Federal government offers pooled testing for early care and education facilities through Operation Expanded Testing. To learn more or to enroll, visit www.operationexpandedtesting.com or email OperationET@ClinicalEnterprise.com.

Information on how families can access tests can be found on the [COVID-19 Testing in Maine website](#).